# EAB Program Strategies for 2006

# Supplement to the

# Emerald Ash Borer Michigan Eradication Strategy

November 7, 2005

In the continuing response to the presence of emerald ash borer in Michigan, the following strategy document has been developed as an addendum to the EAB Michigan Eradication Strategy in recognition of the current status of the beetle in Michigan, and the development of program options and strategies that were not available in the past.

#### **SURVEY**

- 1. Evaluate results from the 2005 Detection Tree Program.
- 2. Establish a comprehensive survey plan for the Upper Peninsula to include a high density Detection Tree Program, as well as continuous increased survey techniques in high-risk areas.
- 3. Establish a Detection Tree Program in the Lower Peninsula consisting of high-risk sites, with greater densities in the Gateway areas.
- 4. Implement Detection Tree survey protocols around eradication areas to evaluate success of removal action.
- 5. Monitor and evaluate current quarantine boundaries and make adjustments as needed to stop artificial spread and reduce natural spread of EAB.

#### REGULATORY

- 1. Increase regulatory actions including contacts, compliance agreements and inspections throughout the State. Maximize enforcement actions for quarantine violations.
- 2. Maintain and enhance random firewood blitzes along targeted Michigan thoroughfares across the state to help ensure infested materials are not being moved illegally.
- 3. Increase enforcement on the movement of regulated materials through the mandatory Inspection Station at the Mackinac Bridge.

#### **ERADICATION ACTIVITIES**

- 1. Maintain eradication objectives in the Upper Peninsula and within outlying locations discovered in Gateway areas, as designated by the Science Advisory Panel.
- 2. Identify and support activities that support the objective of reduction of EAB population density in the outlying areas of the Lower Peninsula that are not in a Gateway.

### **ERADICATION ACTIVITIES BY AREA:**

- I. UPPER PENINSULA AND GATEWAY AREAS IN LOWER PENINSULA:
  - 1. Where EAB is present, continue efforts to delineate, quarantine and eradicate infestations. Tree removal activities may be a multi-year effort due to the time of year discovered and environmental restrictions present.
  - 2. Where EAB has not been detected, support voluntary actions to remove ash trees and encourage wood utilization opportunities.
- II. LOWER PENINSULA QUARANTINED AREAS (outside of the gateways)

- 1. Allow for, and support voluntary actions of residents, municipal foresters, etc. to apply insecticides in these areas to assist in the control of EAB.
- 2. Allow for, and support municipalities to participate in the Municipal Tree Removal Program and encourage landowners to join.
- 3. Allow for, and encourage voluntary tree removal activities and value added opportunities for woodlot trees.
- 4. Support development of value added activities and businesses utilizing ash materials to help build markets to digest ash that is removed due to EAB.

#### III. LOWER PENINSULA (non-quarantined, non-gateway areas)

- 1. Continue to develop data on EAB distribution through established Detection Tree survey procedures of high-risk areas.
- 2. Establish a quarantine around outlying infestations as they are identified.
- 3. Allow for, and support voluntary actions of residents, municipal foresters, etc. to apply insecticides in these areas to assist in the control of EAB.
- 4. Collaborate with DNR, Forest Service and private landowners to develop an ash reduction management plan to harvest ash and manage forest areas to favor alternate species.

## SANITATION/DISPOSAL

- 1. Encourage market development of wood utilization in Michigan.
- 2. Provide opportunities for landowners, communities, and tree maintenance companies to properly and safely dispose of their dead and dying ash trees through operation of disposal sites.
- 3. Implement additional disposal sites necessary to prevent further spread of EAB.
- 4. Dispose of infested or at-risk ash trees removed from outlier eradication and containment sites.

#### **OUTREACH AND EDUCATION**

- 1. Continue to involve EAB Communications Committee representatives, trade and industry organizations in the distribution of program related information (brochures, trade journals, television, billboards, press releases, etc).
- 2. Continue outreach and education system of public meetings and direct mailings for each outlier area.
- 3. Maintain and enhance a comprehensive EAB website for citizens and stakeholders.
- 4. Implement a communications strategy based on thorough analysis of demographics, reach and various tools and mediums to help raise awareness of EAB and the importance of the quarantine.
- 5. Provide operational support for MSU Extension offices and county experts to ensure grass roots outreach to impacted communities.

#### RESTORATION

1. Pilot Program Development to assist communities with the cost share of canopy replacement in southeast Michigan. Continue to develop the program with DNR and

- other partners with a goal of providing suitable low cost trees to landowners and communities impacted by EAB.
- 2. Continue to provide restoration grants to communities affected by the removal of ash trees in eradication areas.

## RESEARCH

1. Increase methods development activities to provide wide area detection, control and eradication tools and techniques in support of the EAB program.